Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, John Sieh has been a member of the South Dakota Resources Coalition for many years, working to protect South Dakota's environment; and,

Whereas, John achieved statewide recognition during the 1970s battle over the Oahe Irrigation Project, which was never implemented, due, in large part, to his efforts; and,

Whereas, John and other like-minded citizens sought election to the Oahe Conservancy Sub-district board, and after a tough campaign, won a majority of seats on that board, and was elected chairman; and,

Whereas, John was instrumental in re-directing state water policy away from irrigation and to rural water, leading local elected officials to successfully obtain federal funds dedicated to construct a buried pipeline rural water system, which is now the history making Walworth-Edmunds-Brown (WEB) Rural Water System that serves people, livestock, and small rural communities; and,

Whereas, John has worked fearlessly over the years to protect the interests of land stewardship and environmental ethics; and,

Whereas, John founded the Granary Rural Cultural Center in Groton, South Dakota, a visual arts institution that serves high school students and professional and amateur artists throughout the Dakotas:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2009, as

JOHN SIEH DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State